

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 314155
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY AF:WESCHAUFLE, JR.
APPROVED BY S - THE SECRETARY (PER SECTO 34018)
S/S - PSEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 314155

NODIS
FOR EDMONDSON ONLY - DELIVER IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL

E.O. 11652:XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, SF, UK, RH

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO BRITISH INQUIRY ABOUT SECRETARY'S
TALK WITH BOTHA

REF: LONDON 20729

1. YOU MAY TELL RICHARD THAT AS THE SECRETARY AND RICHARD AGREED, THE SECRETARY DISCUSSED STRUCTURE OF INTERIM GOVERNMENT IN SOME DETAIL (THOUGH HE DID NOT GET INTO ALL SPECIFICS), INCLUDING HOW BLOCKING MECHANISM WOULD WORK AND THE VARIOUS IDEAS, WHICH RICHARD HIMSELF GAVE TO PRESS, FOR CONTROL OF SECURITY AND LAW AND ORDER. SECRETARY OBSERVED - AND BOTHA AGREED - THAT UK ITSELF HAS STRONG INTEREST IN PRESERVING INTERNAL SECURITY AND ITS ROLE IN SECURITY MECHANISM SHOULD REASSURE WHITE RHODESIANS.

2. SECRETARY ALSO DISCUSSED KINDS OF ASSURANCES WHICH
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MIGHT BE PROVIDED IN AREAS OF CIVIL SERVICE, JUDICIARY AND ECONOMIC SYSTEM IN RHODESIA. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT GET INTO VARIOUS MEANS BY WHICH SUCH ASSURANCES WOULD BE LEGISLATED OR REGULATED.

ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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